GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2182
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2005
SOWING OF COARSE CEREALS
Singh Shri Chandra Bhushan

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sowing of coarse cereals so far has been 5.7 lakh hectares compared to 12.54 lakh hectares during the corresponding period last year;

(b) if so, whether the area under oilseeds so far is 1.99 lakh hectares compared to 4.12 lakh hectares at the same time last year;

(c) if so, whether the Government had suggested any alternate strategy for sowing; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) : As per the reports discussed in the meeting held on 01.08.2005 of Crop Weather Watch Group under Ministry of Agriculture, in the kharif season of 2005 till 01.08.2005, the total area coverage under coarse cereals is 174.51 lakh hectares as compared to 155.63 lakh hectares during the same period last year.

(b) : The area sown under various oilseed crops till 29th July 2005 is 137.56 lakh hectares as compared to 141.02 lakh hectares during the same period last year.

(c) & (d) : The behavior of monsoon was erratic in the month of June 2005 and at the All India level the cumulative rainfall from 1st June to 29th June was 20% less than the normal. However, the monsoon revived subsequently and the cumulative rainfall from 1st June to 31st July 2005 at the All India level was 2% more than the normal. With improved rainfall conditions the sowing operations have accelerated and it is expected that the area under crops will further improve in the coming weeks. In view of the comfortable sowing position of coarse cereals and oilseeds, necessity for formulation of any alternate sowing strategy does not arise.